Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 20, as follows:

R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted (C_1-C_8)alkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)aryl, (C_3-C_9)heteroaryl, amide, amino, ~~(C_1-C_8)alcohol~~, (C_3-C_8)hydroxyalkyl, (C_3-C_9)heterocycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)aryl(C_1-C_8)alkyl, amino(C_1-C_8)alkyl, amido(C_1-C_8)alkyl; or R^1 and R^2 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl or heteroaryl;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 10, as follows:

R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted ~~(C_1-C_8)alcohol~~, (C_3-C_8)hydroxyalkyl, (C_3-C_9)cycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)heterocycloalkyl, (C_3-C_9)heteroaryl, amino(C_1-C_8)alkyl, (C_3-C_9)aryl(C_1-C_8)alkyl, or amido(C_1-C_8)alkyl; or R^1 and R^2 taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a substituted or unsubstituted heterocycloalkyl or heteroaryl group;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 24, as follows:

R^2 is a substituted or unsubstituted ~~(C_1-C_8)alcohol~~, (C_3-C_8)hydroxyalkyl, preferably, a substituted or unsubstituted ~~(C_1-C_5)alcohol~~ (C_1-C_5)hydroxyalkyl; more preferably, a substituted or unsubstituted ~~(C_3-C_5)alcohol~~ (C_3-C_5)hydroxyalkyl;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 12, as follows:

As used herein, the term "suitable substituent", "substituent" or "substituted" refers to a chemically and pharmaceutically acceptable functional group, *i.e.*, a moiety that does not negate the inhibitory and/or therapeutic activity of the inventive compounds. Such suitable substituents may be routinely selected by those skilled in the art. Illustrative examples of suitable substituents include~~, but are not limited to,~~ cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, ~~alcohol,~~ hydroxyalkyl, benzyl, carbonyl, halo, haloalkyl, perfluoroalkyl, perfluoroalkoxy, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxy, oxo, mercapto, alkylthio, alkoxy, -O-(C_1-C_6)alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, aryloxy or heteroaryloxy, aralkyl or heteroaralkyl, aralkoxy or heteroaralkoxy, HO-(C=O)-, ~~ester,~~ amido, ~~ether,~~ amino, alkyl- and dialkylamino, cyano, nitro, carbamoyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl,

dialkylaminocarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, alkylsulfonyl, and arylsulfonyl ~~and the like~~. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that many substituents can be substituted by additional substituents.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 1, as follows:

undergo solvolysis under physiological conditions or undergo enzymatic degradation. Prodrug compounds of this invention may be called single, double, triple etc., depending on the number of biotransformation steps required to release the active drug within the organism, and indicating the number of functionalities present in a precursor-type form. Prodrug forms often offer advantages of solubility, tissue compatibility, or delayed release in the mammalian organism (see, Bundgard, Design of Prodrugs, pp. 7-9, 21-24, Elsevier, Amsterdam 1985 and Silverman, The Organic Chemistry of Drug Design and Drug Action, pp. 352-401, Academic Press, San Diego, Calif., 1992). Prodrugs commonly known in the art include acid derivatives well known to practitioners of the art, such as, for example, esters prepared by reaction of the parent acids with a suitable ~~alcohol~~ hydroxyalkyl, or amides prepared by reaction of the parent acid compound with an amine, or basic groups reacted to form an acylated base derivative. Moreover, the prodrug derivatives of this invention may be combined with other features herein taught to enhance bioavailability. For example, a compound of the invention having free amino, amido, hydroxy or carboxylic groups can be converted into prodrugs. Prodrugs include compounds wherein an amino acid residue, or a polypeptide chain of two or more (*e.g.*, two, three or four) amino acid residues which are covalently joined through peptide bonds to free amino, hydroxy or carboxylic acid groups of compounds of the invention. The amino acid residues include the 20 naturally occurring amino acids commonly designated by three letter symbols and also include, 4-hydroxyproline, hydroxylysine, demosine, isodemosine, 3-methylhistidine, norvalin, beta-alanine, gamma-aminobutyric acid, citrulline homocysteine, homoserine, ornithine and methionine sulfone. Prodrugs also include compounds wherein carbonates, carbamates, amides and alkyl esters which are covalently bonded to the above substituents of a compound of the invention through the carbonyl carbon prodrug sidechain.